

EMS Administrative Board Meeting
August 14, 2018 @ 1:00pm
Flathead Emergency Operations Center

Members Present

Wayne Miller, MD
Mae Stubbs (KRCM)
Amy Vanterpool (NVH)
Mary Granger (Lakeside QRU)
Jacob Pitcher (GPFA Fire)

Others Present

James Brower – FF/EMT, Smith Valley Fire
Amy Beick – Chief Smith Valley Fire
Sarah Gilbert – Smith Valley Fire
Jordan Owen – Lakeside QRU
Richie Berndt - FVCC
Ron Werner- Z-Medica
Rick Sacca – FC Emergency Manager
Lisa Swanson – FC EMS Manager
Mark Thirty – Chief Bigfork Fire

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by MILLER at 1300 Hrs.

Approval of Agenda –MILLER asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

MOTION to approve agenda; Moved by VANDERPOOL, 2nd by STUBBS, all approved.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION to approve Minutes March 13, 2017. Moved by GRANGER , 2nd by VANTERPOOL.
Motion passed

Citizen Comments

GRANGER introduced Jordan OWEN to the group, the new Lakeside QRU Director of Operations. OWEN gave a brief overview of his background and experience.

Jacob PITCHER, new board member, also introduced himself to the board and group.

Ratification of Dr. Briles Contract – MOTION to approve Dr. Briles contract that went into effect July 1, 2018 and is good for one year. VANTERPOOL made a motion, 2nd by GRANGER.
Motion passed.

Ratification of the June EMS Payouts – MOTION to approve the July EMS Flathead County payout to departments for readiness and response, GRANGER made a motion, 2nd by STUBBS. GRANGER had concerns that Olney Fire may not have met the 95% response rate requirements. It was discussed that SWANSON would monitor all agencies to make sure they were meeting their response rates and discuss with Liz BROOKS from 911 as to how to best gather that information from the CAD.

EMS Manager Report – SWANSON discussed that bids for protocol books has been sent out so that we can have updated printing of the county protocols. Dr. BRILES stated that there would be changes that would be made to the protocols in September and recommended that we hold off printing until those changes have been made. SWANSON distributed a yearlong training calendar/plan for EMS training that will be offered and/or sponsored by Flathead County. A preliminary contract has been drawn up by Best Practice Medicine to provide some of those offerings. That contract is currently in the process of being revised and tailored to meet our specific training needs.

SWANSON discussed that for the next year, the county will be entering a partnership with FVCC to deliver our EMT Basic courses. The county will reimburse up to \$800 for a student to attend any EMT Basic class that FVCC offers, with the remainder to be split between the department and the student (however the unit sees fit). This will allow students to attend during any of the courses the college offers, it will provide consistency, a central location, neutrality, and many other benefits that FVCC is able to offer that the county cannot. BERNDT answered questions regarding the college's accreditation, staff credentials, and teaching methods.

BROWER and BEICK stated concerns over price and that it was an undo burden on the student and department to pay for such a class. It was discussed at length by the entire group that there needs to be some investment by the student and unit for accountability. In the past, many students signed up for the course but skipped classes or simply quit. Having some investment by the student and department in their education should help with retention. BROWER felt that changing the way the class is delivered was a step backward not forward.

SWANSON again stated that since the model used last year did not work, producing only 3 EMT's out of a class of 13. The past class cost the county over \$16,000, so for the next year, Flathead County could partner with FVCC and at this time next year we will re-evaluate and make a decision as to continue or find another method of EMT instruction.

MILLER called for a special meeting in two weeks to discuss the issue further.

Medical Director Report – BRILES stated that recently KRMC has had issues with available bed space, and was close to going on ambulance divert. Hospital administration and BRILES spoke to find a solution, and is in the process of creating a policy when beds are low. The policy will outline that certain patients will go to NVH, when this situation occurs. It was discussed that once the new portion of the ED opens, it should help alleviate the issue of bed shortage in the ED.



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Comments

None

Meeting Adjourned 1425 Hrs
Lisa Swanson, Recorder

Next EMS Administrative Board Meeting
November 13, 2018 @ 1:00pm
Flathead Emergency Operations Center